



**Council of Mayors Executive Committee
Meeting Summary
March 3, 2009**

The Council of Mayors Executive Committee met on March 3rd and approved advanced funding requests for DuPage, McHenry, Central, Lake and North Shore Councils of Mayors in the amount of \$13,017,210. Since the implementation of Active Program Management, the Councils have done a great job in catching up on spending their Surface Transportation Program (STP) dollars. With the approval of these projects, the Council of Mayors will have a negative STP balance of over \$5 million for 2009. IDOT District 1 staff reported that they have been assured by IDOT's Central Office that all projects on the April letting will go forward. The suburban Councils will be spending into 2010 funds. Two of the Councils will be spending into 2011 funds. A list of the thirty five locally programmed STP projects expected to be on the April letting was distributed. Subsequent to the meeting, it was determined that many of the projects that the Planning Liaisons and IDOT had planned for the April letting would not make it. The reasons for those delays are being documented.

The Committee asked that CMAP staff arrange a meeting between the Executive Committee officers and the Illinois state legislative leaders concerning the funding splits between IDOT District One of 45% and Downstate Illinois of 55%. The 45/55 split reflects how federal and state transportation dollars are currently divided. The Committee also voted to send a letter and resolution to the northeastern Illinois delegation of the Illinois General Assembly and to Governor Quinn to express the need for a capital bill.

The Executive Committee had a spirited discussion on The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA). They reviewed the CMAP *Principles for Infrastructure Investment* and discussed ways to insure that the stimulus funds are spent wisely. The Committee discussed the importance of using the funds on projects that are ready to go and those that will be instrumental in putting people to work. If the CMAP MPO Policy Committee concurs at its March 12 meeting, the locally programmed transportation funding

from the ARRA will be distributed to the Councils of Mayors (including the city of Chicago) using the regular STP distribution formula.

The mayors discussed the desirability for consultation with IDOT on the IDOT-selected projects in their regions and the need to assure that the Recovery Act funds programmed by the Councils are not supplanting projects that would have been accomplished in the next year anyway. The CMAP staff has distributed a listing of eligible project types to the Councils. The Lake Council of Mayors will use stimulus funds for its latest advance funded project if they have access to those funds.

The Committee approved the Scope of Services and submittal of the Unified Work Program (UWP) proposals for the Planning Liaison Program. Lastly an informative presentation was given on congestion management and how the use of roundabouts can effectively ease congestion and reduce vehicle emissions.

The next meeting of the Committee is tentatively scheduled for the second week of June, and the members will review progress on expending the Recovery Act funds.